FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Position in regard to exchange value of dollar in terms of rupees as on 21-7-1989 and that obtaining on the corresponding date in the last three years is as follows:

	1 $=Rs.
21-7-89	16,5028
21-7-88	14.0977
21-7-87	13.0733
21-7-86	12;5083

(b) In view of the diverse effects of the exchange rate, on foreign trade, it is not possible to quantify the impact of exchange rate variations on the country's trade.

Assam Tea Plantation Labour Welfare Bill, 1986

1059. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assam Tea Plantation Labour Welfare Bill, 1986 has not been cleared by the Central Government so far; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) by when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH); (a) Yes, Sir. The Bill involves Constitutional and substantive issues, which are engaging the attention of Government of India.

(b) It is not possible to indicate any date by which the Bill will be cleared.

Income Tax Arrears of Law Commission Members

1060. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any income-tax related case is at present pending against some membsrs of Law Commission; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) The question is not quite clear and, therefore, it is not possible to collect information. If any specific information is required about any particular member, the same can be furnished.

Display of Prime Minister's Photo in Central Government Officers

1061. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) what are the guidelines issued to various Central Government offices regarding the display of the Prime Minister's photo; and

(b) what, is the estimated amount so far incurred on such dispaly?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) No instructions/guidelines have been issued regarding display of photographs/portraits of national leaders including the Prime Minister of India. The matter has been left to the Departments to decide whether they should at all exhibit any photographs/portraits in the office rooms and, if so, of which particular leader, while ensuring that no controversy arises out of a display of any portrait. The question of estimating the expenditure on the display of photographs does not, therefore, arise.

Cornering of Huge amount of private funds by companies

1062. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE he pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the big private companies are cornering

colossal amounts of private funds through public issues of shares and bonds and that such issues are successful not because of desirability of the proposed industrial" projects but only due to the gimmicks of publicity and the greed of colluding brokers;

(b) if so, whether, in view of the above, there is any proposal under Government's consideration to impose a ceiling on such issues to prevent concentration of wealth in a few large companies and protect the innocent investors from potential disaster; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The public limited companies are permitted to raise funds from their shareholders/public for financing the project/working capital needs and thus the size of the issue would depend on the requirement of the company. There is no proposal with the Government to impose ceiling on the size of the issue since the size is dependent on the requirement of the companies for new projects, expansion, modernisation and working capital.

Creation of States in the country

1063. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has stated in a press conference In. Simla on the 14th October, 1988 that no more States would be create^ {n the country;

. (b) whether it is a delared policy of Government that no more States would be formed;

(c) if so, whether the policy extends to formation of new regional councils like the one for the Gorkhas in West Bengal; and

(d) whether demands have been received from some quarters in Andhra Pradesh for creation of a regional council for Rayalseema; if so, what is Governments response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV)s (a) While replying the questions at a Press Conference, Prime" Minister was reported to have said that there would be no further division of any State in the country.

(b) There is no proposal under consideration, at present, for reorganisation of any State.

(c) Formation of a regional council in a State is primarily the concern of the State Government concerned and, if required, can be brought about by a State legislation.

(d) No such demand has come to notice.

Japanese aid for increasing food production

1064. SHRI GOPALA RAO RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE *be* pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Japan agreed to provide 600 million yen for increasing food production in our country and whether Japan has extended the same facility in the past also; and

(b) if so, what are the details of grants made since 1980 and the details of the amount spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.